

Today is Dr. Dorothy Irene Height's 87th birthday. Mentored by her predecessor, the great Mary McLeod Bethune, Dorothy Height has spent a lifetime mentoring black women.

Today was no leisure day for Dorothy Height. As the day began, she was here in this House protesting the majority's census proposal that knowingly undercounts children and people of color. Dorothy Height has spent a lifetime keeping on top of issues of the day like the census.

There are so many landmarks in her extraordinary career, I will not attempt to list them. Let me name a few of the great ones. She is the first national female civil rights leader of the modern era. That was clear when 10 civil right leaders got together in 1963 and decided that there would be the first mass march on Washington for civil rights of the 20th century.

There were 10 leaders. Only one of them was a woman. My colleagues can imagine who the others were, leaders like the heads of the NAACP and Urban League. And there was that one great woman, Dorothy Height, the President of the National Council of Negro Women.

To cite another landmark, when women's rights burst on the scene, Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Height was one of the first leaders to understand that there must be no cleavage between women's rights and African American rights, between race and sex.

Inevitably there was some confusion about how blacks were to see this great new movement of half of the population. It took real leadership to come forward and clear up this confusion. Dorothy Height was among the foremost who forged unity. She even helped to make good feminists out of black men, who have ever since been in the forefront of women's rights.

All the while she has been carrying the great domestic issues of our time, Dorothy Height has carried an international portfolio. She indeed is recognized today as a world leader on matters of women of color.

I come to the floor this evening to salute Dorothy Irene Height, who has made the National Council of Negro Women one of America's great coalitions. Black women's groups of every variety are united under the umbrella of the Council. Together they work to improve the lives of African American women.

In celebrating women of color this evening, we would do well to begin with the life and times and work of Dorothy Irene Height.

#### U.S. IS EMBARKING ON VERY DANGEROUS AND WRONG COURSE IN KOSOVO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, last August we bombed Afghanistan and

Sudan, in bombing raids that most Americans have already forgotten. We rushed into that bombing without informing even the full Joint Chiefs of Staff and without congressional approval, and later found we had even bombed a medicine factory.

Last December we started bombing Iraq, once again bombing people that our own leaders tell us are not our enemies. Many press reports since then have confirmed that the White House rigged the UNSCOM report in a lame attempt to justify the Iraqi bombing.

Now we are going to drop bombs on Kosovo. We are spending billions and billions of hard-earned tax dollars in all these bombing campaigns. Yesterday I had a group of people in my office requesting \$100 million more for Alzheimer's research. I told those people to just try to get the President to stop bombing for part of one day.

We are dropping bombs and making enemies out of people who want to be our friends. And we are doing all this in places where there is absolutely no threat to our national security and no vital U.S. interest at stake.

The Christian Science Monitor said a few weeks ago that there are wars or military conflicts going on right now in 46 different places around the world. Many of these situations are just as bad or worse than Kosovo right now. There have been 2,000 people killed in Kosovo in the last year. As bad as this is, columnist Charles Krauthammer pointed out on television Sunday that more people were killed recently in Ethiopia in just one day.

If we intervene in every place where there are human rights violations, we will have to go into even more places than the 46 where the Christian Science Monitor found military conflicts. We seem to be following a CNN foreign policy, going heavily into whatever situation is being emphasized on the national news at the moment.

We should try to be friends with all nations. But we do not have the resources to become the world's policeman, and we will make more enemies than friends if we become the world's bully.

And we cannot hide behind NATO. Everyone knows that this bombing in Kosovo would not be done if the U.S. did not insist on it. NATO was set up as a defensive organization. Now it is being turned into an offensive one, attacking a non-member nation that has not threatened us or any other country.

We are intervening in a civil war. It is as if one of our own States was attempting to secede and our military attempted to keep it in and some other country started bombing us. The Kosovo bombings have been attempted to be justified on the basis that the fighting will spread. This is ridiculous. Milosevic may be a tyrant, but he is not attempting to nor does he have the resources to spread worldwide. It is ridiculous to try to equate this situation to when we were fighting world com-

munism. There is no similarity to Russia under Khrushchev or China under Mao Tse-Tung.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger wrote a few days ago that U.S. intervention in Kosovo is a mistake. He said, "The proposed deployment in Kosovo does not deal with any threat to U.S. security as this concept has been traditionally conceived." He pointed out that "ethnic conflict has been endemic in the Balkans for centuries."

David Broder wrote in the Washington Post last week, "Sending in the military to impose a peace on people who have not settled ancient quarrels has to be the last resort, not the standard way of doing business."

This is a religious or ethnic conflict that we cannot resolve unless we stay for a very long time at a cost of many, many billions. The President promised we would be out of Bosnia by the end of 1996. This is now March of 1999, and we are still there. I was told by another Member of the House recently that we have now spent \$20 billion in Bosnia.

We are about to get into a very dangerous situation. This is an European problem. It is not something that we should risk American lives over. Young Americans may be killed. We should not be so eager or willing to send our troops into this situation. We cannot afford to spend all these billions just to show that the President is a great world statesman or to make sure that he goes down in history as a great world leader.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Thomas Friedman wrote recently in the New York Times these words:

Stop. Before we dive into sending American troops to sort out the Serbian-Albanian civil war in Kosovo, could we talk about this for a second? If ever there was a time for an honest reassessment of U.S. policy towards Bosnia and Kosovo, it is now. And what that reassessment would conclude is that we should redo the Dayton Accords, otherwise we are going to end up with U.S. troops in Bosnia and Kosovo forever, without solving either problem.

Mr. Friedman is right. We are embarking on a very dangerous and very wrong course.

#### HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND WOMEN OF COLOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to participate in the celebration of Women's History Month and women of color. I applaud my distinguished colleague from California (Ms. LEE) who will later on this evening be conducting an hour discussion on this celebration.

For more than 10 years, the month of March has been dedicated to the celebration of women in American history. This month affords us the opportunity to appreciate the accomplishments of women and the role they have played